

Extracts.

PART II.

Beneath the quiet old bridge you hear
The water murmurs as they pass;
And, listening to the low, far tones,
You see the pathway through the grass,
Where we went to walk, and I
The river wanders in its bed,
The soft waters gleam like gold,
And ripple to the gentle breeze;
But I am far from that time,
The sky bends over, broad and blue,
And, in the soft and yellow light,
You tread the low, far tones,
In former days, when days were bright,
Do these days bring such sweet delight?

And still that lane with grass is green;
With fragrance from the banks so fair;
In golden glow and silver gleam,
The bees still hum the busy hum,
But you will find me there,
Again, perhaps, I may not see
The rustling of the willow leaves
(Which I used to find so sweet)
When we strolled underneath at ease,
For I am far from that time!

THE TURKEY.

In our farm-yard, where the turkey knows
His place, and is subdued to domesticity,
He behaves in a very different manner from
the free wild bird in his native woods, who
lowers his crested head for none, who rules
with undisputed sway over his female tribe,
and has won his place to eminence by success
in the victuals. He is a grand bird and a
proud one, as he stalks majestically through
the woods followed by his obedient troop,
like a patriarch of old with his wives and
children; he feeds his fowls and spreads his
tail in sheer exuberance of pride; and over
and over again goes to the extraordinary
sight which we call gobbling, and which
Arabs have mistaken for a dialect of their
own guttural language.—*Out of Doors, by the*
Rev. J. G. Wood.

AUGUSTUS DOOLITTLE'S ADVENTURE.

I was a bachelor. I can't say I am a very
young one, but I am not a very old one. I
may be vain, but I should not call myself
unprepossessing; and I am always careful to
dress in the most becoming style, and to be
neat about my person. The ladies generally
like me, because I am so exceedingly polite
to them. Young or old, plain or pretty, I
am ever their devoted servant.

DOOLITTLE.

The dry old Bristol for Pudding was a
very fine one. I was in excellent spirits and
perfectly healthy. I had in my pocket an introduction
to a certain eminent banker, who had it in
his power to bestow upon me the office of cashier,
just becoming vacant, and for which many
gentlemen were anxious. I did not know
Mr. Puffer myself, but I was told that he was
his friend Duffer. I had done Duffer a
service through a friend of mine, Duffer
had done Puffer a service through a friend
of his, consequently Puffer was bound to
serve him. Consequently also I was certain
to have the office allotted to whether I was
competent to fill it or not—a very neat little
thing altogether.

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I had also carried pretty little notes of in-
troduction to some of the first people in Pud-
dly. Everything seemed propitious. Not a
cloud obscured the horizon. The train did
not run off the line; no collision occurred.
I took a carriage at the station, and was
driven directly to Mrs. Battersby's elegant
boarding-house. I dined, I slept, took
breakfast; and, as the next day was to
be devoted to a call on Mr. Duffer, who could
not be seen till two o'clock, I walked away
the morning by a visit to the park. I had,
of course, arrayed myself in my most suit-
able and becoming garments. I handled
looked well. As I strolled along the lake,
I was conscious that one or two glances were
after me with interest in their eyes. I
acquired the art of walking as a gentleman
should at Mr. Bibo's dancing academy. I
sauntered slowly along, enjoying the balmy
spring breezes, when suddenly my attention
was attracted by the figure of a lady, who
was standing at the water's edge, wringing
her hands as if in agony. Two or three
persons stood at her and passed on. Some
rode boys laughed. I never forgotful of the
fair sex in affliction, advanced.

DOOLITTLE.

"Midway," I began, "is there anything I
can do?"
"O, yes," she cried. "Save him—do save
him! He can't swim!"
"Your husband?—your child?—your
—your—"

DOOLITTLE.

"My dear little noodle!" cried the lady.
"He's fallen in!"
I looked into the water. A podgy puddle,
weighted down by a mass of white wool, was
floundering about there. I saw that by care-
fully clambering down I could reach him
with my hands, and, instantly, I
stretched forth my arm, and, catching at his
wool, drew him towards me.

DOOLITTLE.

The little wretch bit me just as I drew
him to land, and the start which he gave me
caused me to lose my balance, and, in spite
of desperate efforts to preserve my equilib-
rium, I toppled over and fell into the water.
I heard a shriek, but I did not heed it, for
I came from the lips of the lady whose puddle
I had rescued.

DOOLITTLE.

I was in no danger, and after a very un-
pleasant cold bath I scrambled out. My hat
was gone, and when I reached dry land I saw
my lady with her wet puddle in her arms
just stepping into her carriage. She glanced
at me and then turned her head away with
her handkerchief. But close to me stood
a female maid elegantly dressed, but yet
more sympathetic. It was an Irish woman
of about fifty, a labourer's wife, who had
probably just carried him his dinner.

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"Much thanks, my dear, for your politeness,"
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Foren this park me shanty is jist a step."

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Courtesy is never thrown away upon me.
I thanked the good woman as politely as
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stove, and across one end of the room hung
an old quilt by way of curtain.

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"Go behind the curtain yonder, and change
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clothes illigant in the sun the while. Och,
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I tell ye, or ye'll have the rheumatism."

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Rheumatism is a terror of mine. The name
alarmed me. I was conscious of being very
chilly. In an unguarded moment I did as
she excellent soul advised me, and having
arrayed myself in an immense coat which I
found hanging on a hook upon the wall, I
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It was rather a distressing situation, how-
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THE SWISS LLOYD'S TRANSPORT INSURANCE COMPANY.

Subscribed Capital, £1,000,000
Reserve Fund, £115,000
And Co-insurers with French Lloyd's, £1,400,000
And with French Company, Paris, do. 1,000,000
Aggregate Capital, £3,515,000

VOGEL, HAGEDORN & CO. AGENTS—HONGKONG AND CHINA.

Will grant Policies at Current Rates on Marine Risks to all Ports of the World, allowing a Brokerage of 4 per cent. on Risks East of Singapore, and 2 per cent. on Risks to Europe and America. 1043 Hongkong, 14th January, 1875.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT INSURANCES at Current Rates.

MELOHENS & CO. Agents, Royal Insurance Company.

1780 Hongkong, 25th October, 1874.

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